Response to Office Action Mailed April 13, 2009

Confirmation Number: 7077

Examiner: Yves Dalencourt

Art Unit: 2157

Title: File Based Workflow System and Methods

Application Number: 09/974,594

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

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Action is Final

35 U.S.C. 103

Summary of Response to Examiner's Response Arguments

The Examiner's arguments do not address the points of the Inventor's arguments of the previous submissions and do not illustrate where Ghoneimy teaches the classification of files to be attached or downloaded or teach a workflow step to download a file of a specified classification. Please re-read the previous submission and re-read the Ghoneimy sections cited in your arguments.

Response to Examiner's Response Arguments

A) Ghoneimy paragraph [0072] describes a workflow system with node types e.g. Start Node, Exit Node, etc. from which workflow routes may be constructed. An Activity Node may be assigned several forms where a form can access attributes of the containing process. The capabilities taught by Ghoneimy are consistent with the prior art workflow development tools. Ghoneimy lists a number of node types in [0072] but does not describe any nodes for attaching a file or downloading a file or classification of files and association of a file classification with a node for attaching or downloading files.

Classification of nodes described by Ghoneimy is not equivalent to or suggestive of classification of files. In the present invention, file classification is determined by the function provided by the file content, e.g. Bill of Material, etc. and thus the process that may be applied to the file. The present invention is not claiming "classification" as a broad process such as classification of insects into phyla or classification of nodes. Ghoneimy does not describe or suggest classification of files by the functional content for attachment or download at a node.

The Examiner cites "The user of the workflow can access the attributes of a process and the activity performed on that process is attached as a file type." as attributed to Ghoneimy. Ghoneimy [0072] simply states "An activity may be assigned one or more files as an attachment." The attributes of a process